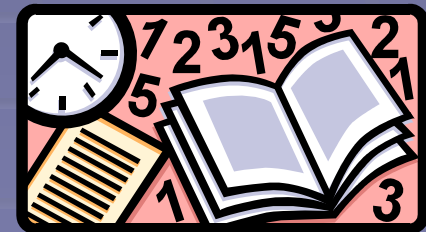# Frank A. Degnan High School
&
Unalakleet Schools

Maximizing Success

Data

- Adequate Yearly Progress
- Standards Based Assessment
- High School Graduation Qualifying Exam

External Factors

- City Government
- Community Faith/Values
- Parent Involvement
- Long Tenured District Staff
- Long Tenured School Staff
- District/Teaching Collaboration
- Focused Direction of District/School

Maximizing Success

District Level

Activities/Actions/Decisions

Is this good for students?

Will this lead to student achievement?

Will this benefit students or is it for adult convenience/preference?

Curriculum and Instruction

- Committee
  - On-going monitoring of curriculum and instruction
  - Site rep, admin rep, C&I Director
  - Develops trust and collegiality
  - Decisions by consensus
  - Information conduit to and from sites
  - Sites gain access to high level activities
    - shared leadership
    - creating new leaders
- Content Area Standing Committees (CASCs)

Professional Development

- Focused
- Driven by Strategic Plan and curriculum
- How will this professional development benefit the students?

Data Compilation/Analysis

- ## Testing binder
  - HSGQE
  - SBA
  - TerraNova

- ## School Improvement Plan Activity
  - Focused analysis of all data
  - Establishment of school goal based on data
  - Development of plans based on what students need

Maximizing Success

School Level

School Level

- Identifying and Using Best Practices in Instruction
- School Improvement Process
- Connection to Evaluation
- Commitment to Literacy

"Uncertainty can become permissiveness and the acceptance of all teaching as having equal merit"

-Carl Glickman *Leadership For Learning*

Identifying and Using Best Practices in Instruction

- What are best practices?

- Who decides what is best practice?

- What if we disagree on best practice?

- How do we begin incorporating best practice into daily instruction?

- The Challenge: How do we maintain continued identification & use of best practice instruction?

School Improvement Process

- Process
  - How do we decide school-wide focus/goals?
  - How do we decide class focus/goals?

- Monitoring
  - The Challenge: How do we insure long term commitment?
  - How do we measure success?

Connection to Evaluation

- Imbedded Outcomes
  - Best Practices
  - School Improvement Focus/Goals
- Differentiated
  - Appropriate Expectations & Goals Based on Teacher Experience/Level of Use

Commitment to Literacy

- 90 Minutes of Reading Daily (55 @ Middle School and High School)
- 55 Minutes of Writing Daily at Middle School and High School
- Individual Tutoring 20 minutes Daily for Identified Students (100 minutes per week)
- Quarterly Standardized Assessment aligned to High Stakes Assessments
- Quarterly Staff Discussion & Regrouping

Maximizing Success

Classroom Level

Elementary Perspective

- Scheduling
- Communication
- Reporting & Recording

Scheduling

- Aligned Across Grade Levels
- Content Focus
  - 1 1/2 Reading (20 minutes every night)
  - 1 1/2 Math (Saxon Math Side B and Fact Sheet)
- Collaboration

Communication

- ## Collaboration
  - Opportunity to meet with teachers teaching various levels
  - Common planning for projects
  - Meeting about specific students for interventions
- ## Accountability
  - Through tracking procedures, teachers are required to make sure each child has mastered a set of skills/knowledge before moving to the next level. Documentation is required to demonstrate that a child has mastered a standard in more than one way.
- ## Difficult Questions Are Not Ignored
  - Asking for proof
  - It's more difficult for students to fall through cracks

Recording & Reporting

- Consistent Reporting & Recording Tools
- Recording and Reporting allows for data to drive decisions
    - Accountability
    - Data drives instruction
    - Up to date with where students are
- Tracking Binder

Middle School Perspective

- Student Involvement In Class
- Differentiated Instruction & Best Practices

Student Involvement

- Ownership

- Motivation

- Problem Solving

- Research

- Student Evaluation

Differentiated Instruction

- Syllabus
- Standard Tracking
- Weekly Planner
- Writing Workshop
  - Status of The Class
- Reading Workshop
  - Status of The Class
- Record Keeping

Too often we underestimate the power of a touch, a smile, a kind word, a listening ear, an honest compliment, or the smallest act of caring, all of which have the potential to turn a life around.
-Leo Buscaglia